

ton) did remember it; and he loved him from that time forward, because he saw energy, enthusiasm, and proper feeling for true antiquity through the medium of history, which had characterised him from that time to the present; and in such matters, as they might suppose, he had found delight, because his young friend had confided to him for many years the results of his lucubrations and studies. He had within the last few days visited Stonehenge, and, although he had done so ten or fifteen times, he believed he had never viewed it with more interest.

The evening meetings were devoted to Natural History. On Wednesday, Mr. E. A. Freeman read a paper on the Perpendicular style as exhibited in the churches of Somerset. The reader enlarged on the scarceness, in English parochial architecture, of interiors which could be really considered as grand wholes; even in Somersetshire Perpendicular, though comparatively common, they are by no means so usually met with as grand towers or other external features. But some of the first-rate Somersetshire exteriors, as Taunton, Bruton, Martock, Yeovil, and Wrington, are of the very noblest kind, as perfect in their own kind, and as truly works of architecture in the highest sense, as any cathedral or abbey. He then proceeded to trace out the characteristics and history of the local style, which he distinguished as being intensely Perpendicular in the leading idea, while retaining a good deal of Decorated detail. Its germs are found long before the Perpendicular era; the Early English nave at St. Cuthbert's, at Wells, quite forestalls its general conception; it is continued in the Decorated work in Bristol Cathedral, and attains its perfection in the transepts of St. Mary Redcliffe, transitional from Decorated to Perpendicular. Most of the best examples have, like St. Cuthbert's, a tall pier and narrow arch, though there are some important exceptions to this rule, of which Bath Abbey is one of the most conspicuous. The timber roofs are often of great magnificence; when the clerestory is present, they are commonly low-pitched and tie-beamed; in its absence they are usually of the cradle form, which, also, as at Yatton, Banbury, and Congressbury, sometimes occur where there is a clerestory. There are some remarkable cinque-cento examples at Axbridge and East Brent. There are two principal types of arrangement of the arcades and clerestory, of which Wrington and Martock may be taken as respectively the best examples. Mr. Freeman compared the two at length, and, on the whole, gave his preference to the latest. He then proceeded to compare the three great churches, Redcliffe, Sherborne, and Bath. The first exhibits the local style in its noblest form, and approaches, in its internal effect, very nearly to absolute perfection. At Sherborne, in the presbytery, an instructive lesson is afforded by the manner in which a design, essentially of the same type as Redcliffe, is modified in its proportions by the architect working on the remains of a Norman church. The nave is quite different, and very inferior. In the Bath Cathedral he recognised great merits and great defects.*

COST OF BUILDERS' TENDERS.—We are every now and then consulted as to the remedy which builders have against those who advertise for tenders, find the result beyond the sum available, and ultimately employ other builders, either on lower tenders or curtailed work, giving no remuneration to any of those who really competed on the terms advertised. To all such we would wish to remark, that they have their remedy in their own hands. They ought to stipulate beforehand with the advertisers that the lowest tender will be accepted, or, if not, avoid the affair altogether. In one of the cases complained of the advertiser announced that he would not bind himself to accept the lowest tender; but, in fact, he accepted none of them, and had ultimately to restrict the work to be done, and gave it to none of the tenderers according to advertisement.

* Full reports of the meeting will be found in the *Bath Chronicle*.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Southsea.—It is proposed to erect a new pier at Southsea, near the King's Rooms. The shares, it is said, have mostly been taken for the scheme.

Lisagefin.—New national schools have been recently erected by Mr. W. Rogers, of Beaumaris, from a design furnished by Mr. W. Kennedy, architect, and were opened on Wednesday in last week.

Birmingham.—The directors of the Great Western Railway Company intend to erect what is a novelty in Birmingham—an arcade. The great opening, which extends from Monmouth-street to Temple-row, is to be covered over and a street formed. On each side shops are to be constructed, the whole being covered by a light roof of glass. One end of the arcade will be opposite the entrance to the permanent station, which is to be erected upon the arches and over the tunnel at Monmouth-street. Some time, however, will elapse before either of the works will be proceeded with.

Liverpool.—Foot-passengers, it is said, are subjected to danger in passing one corner of the fencing in front of St. George's-hall, and it has been suggested that wooden posts should be placed there if the present fencing were likely to remain long. Mr. Newlands, the borough engineer, states that the working-drawings for the front approaches to the hall are all ready.

Heywood.—A meeting of rate-payers has been held to consider the propriety of applying to Parliament for an Act to light the streets with gas. Mr. Wm. Bell remarked that the town contained nearly 20,000 persons. He and others had got an estimate of the probable expenses, and found that the cost for 150 lamps was 90*l.*; 75 pillars, with lamp irons, 112*l.* 10*s.*; 75 brackets, 45*l.*; 75 stones for lamp pillars, 16*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; 750 yards of gas pipes, 16*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*; 150 feet of brass pipes, 2*l.* 10*s.*; 150 taps and burners, 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; 150 lbs. of bolts for fixing pillars, 5*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*; 112 lbs. of lead, 18*s.* Fixing and erecting 150 lamps, 22*l.* 10*s.* Making a total for fixtures of 317*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* The probable expenses of 150 lamps lighted with gas for 2,000 hours, was 187*l.* 10*s.*; two lamp-lighters' wages, for 26 weeks, at 15*s.* per week, 39*l.*; collecting the rate, 20*l.*; repairs, &c.; making a total for lighting of 261*l.* 10*s.* The expenses of fixing and lighting for the first year would amount to 578*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*; and a rate of 8*d.* in the pound upon 18,000*l.* (value of property in boundary) would amount to 600*l.* The lighting after the first year would only require a rate of 3*d.* in the pound.

Kidderminster.—The inhabitants of this town are about to erect a monument to Richard Baxter. The Archbishop of York and Bishop of Manchester have approved of it, and promised assistance, and one gentleman will give 100*l.* The monument is to be placed in the parish church.

Alawick.—On Wednesday in last week the chief stone of new borough schools, designed by Mr. Thomas Robertson, architect, was laid by the Duke of Northumberland.

The Tyne and the Tees.—Breakwaters are to be formed, if practicable, by the Admiralty, one at the mouth of the Tyne, another at the entrance to Hartlepool harbour, and a third at the mouth of the Tees. Captain Vetch is said to be now surveying the coast and the river Tees with Mr. Bald, C.E. The Tees breakwater will be upwards of a mile in extent, and will include the deep pools, which, in Mr. Bald's report upon the navigation of the river Tees, were stated to be capable of floating ships of the largest size at low water. Material is near at hand. A report and plans for effecting this are before the Admiralty, designed by Mr. Murray, C.E.

Middlesborough.—In connection with these improvements on the coast, a contemporary states that Middlesborough, which but a few years since contained only one house, numbers a population of nearly 10,000 persons, most of them brought hither by the working of the mines of iron, lately discovered in the Cleveland Hills, and from which all the branches of the iron trade are springing up as rapidly as works can

be brought into operation. The vast iron mills, furnaces, and forges of Messrs. Bolckow and Vaughan now turn out nearly 1,000 tons per week. The foundries of Messrs. Gilkes and Co.; earthenware works, ship-building yards, a spacious dock, &c. occupy the land which a few years since knew no inhabitant. This little town bids fair, it is said, to rival all the great iron manufacturing districts in the kingdom; having advantages they cannot lay claim to; and improvement in the river will give it superiority in the commercial departments of its trade. Great as have been the metamorphoses of this place, fresh blast furnaces are rising up around it nearer to the "Iron Hills;" and Mr. Pease, who has bought property two or three miles out of the township, towards the mines, has petitioned the Privy Council to have it included in the township, upon an application which is being made for a charter of incorporation.

Jersey.—Victoria College was opened on the 29th ult. The foundation-stone was laid on 24th May, 1850. The building, as described in the *Jersey Times*, will accommodate 400 pupils. The principal hall, in which the ceremony of the opening took place, is 100 feet long by 28 feet wide; the west schoolroom, joining it at right angles, is 50 feet long by 22 feet wide. The turret of the facade are 84 feet high. The architect of the building is Mr. Hayward, of Exeter; the contractor, Mr. Joseph Le Rossignol; the surveyor, Mr. Gallichan. Sir James H. Reynett, K.C.H. ex-lieut.-governor of Jersey, was expressly invited by the States to assist at the opening ceremony. The College-grounds, in front of the building, will be laid out under a plan prepared by the architect. The walks will consist of a series of terraces; the first, 18 feet from the frontage, with a flight of steps in front, and one at each end, with a cut granite support-wall, level with the terrace; the second, or lower one will be 25 feet broad, with a flight of steps in front, a defence-wall at the western end, and a defence in front, of granite pillars and chains, with gas-lamps at the ends; in front of all, the grass-plots will slope to the shrubbery.

BUILDINGS AND DOINGS IN IRELAND.

Our correspondent states that upwards of 250,000 persons have within the last year visited Ireland, mainly through the cheap excursion trips introduced through the agency of Mr. C. P. Roney, and have circulated a million of additional capital through the country. We were well aware of the inducement these offer, but were not prepared to hear of such a number of visitors as this.

The new "monster house" competition is decided: Mr. Caldwell gets first premium, 25*l.*; and Messrs. Murray and Denny the second, 15*l.* The plans furnished by Mr. W. D. Butler are, however, purchased, and his design for the front elevation is to be carried out.

The Killarney Junction Railway Company (encouraged by the great influx of visitors) are about building a spacious hotel at Killarney, to contain a coffee-room, with retiring room off same, billiard, smoking, and private sitting rooms, bar, housekeeper's apartments, and culinary offices, together with sixty or sixty-five bed-rooms. The architect is not yet decided upon: the expense will probably be 6,000*l.* Some capitalists have been inspecting sites near Mangerton for the purpose of building private dwellings, and these intended works will, no doubt, give great employment to the poor of the locality.

An infant school and a market-house are to be built at Listowel.

The Ulster Railway extension line is proposed to proceed by Glasslough, Monaghan, Clones, and Belturbet to Carran, and join a railway to be constructed by the Midland Great Western Railway Company from thence to Mullingar. The intended outlay is 350,000*l.*

A new mechanics' institute is projected at Limerick.

Additions to Skibbereen workhouse are to be built.

An asylum for the orphan children of those